Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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O R 142334Z SEP 73 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEIDATE 9387
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC CI CU

SUBJ: SC MEETING RE CHILEAN EVENTS

1. BY SEPTEL WE ARE REPORTING THIS MORNING'S SC CONSULTATIONS RE PROSPECTIVE CHILEAN DEBATE REQUESTED BY CUBA. SC MEETING LATE SEPT 17 PROMISES TO BE EXCEPTIONALLY CONTENTIOUS. DESPITE RESERVATIONS OF LATING AMERICANS, EVEN INCLUDING PERUVIANS REP ON SC, WE EXPECT VICIOUS RHETORIC FROM CUBANS, SOVIETS AND OTHERS. SOVIET CAMP OBVIOUSLY MOTIVATED TO GO ALL OUT TO DAMAGE REPUTATION AND PROSPECTS OF NEW CHILEAN REGIME THAT HAS JUST TOPPLED MAJOR MARXIST BASTION IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

2. IN OUR VIEW, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT CHILEAN REGIME BE STRONGLY REPRESENTED IN DEBATE. CHILEAN CHARGE HOLGER CLEARLY INADEQUATE FOR PURPOSE. UNLESS CHILEANS REPRESENTED BY ARTICULATE, FORCEFUL, PRESTIGIOUS VOICE IN MONDAY'S DEBATE -- VOICE THAT CAN EFFECTIVELY COUNTER-ATTACK CUBANS AND EVEN SOVIETS -- NEW CHILEAN REGIME WILL SUFFER ENDURING LOSSES. HE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SPEAK NOT ONLY TO SPECIFIC CHARGES IN CUBAN LETTER, BUT ALSO TO WHOLE CATALOGUE OF CUBAN (AND POSSIBLY OTHER COMMUNIST STATES) ACTS AND INTRIGUES AGAINST CHILEANS AND OTHER LATINS. ALTHOUGH TRESPASSES AGAINST CONFIDENTIAL

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CUBANS ARE OSTENSIBLE OCCASION FOR SC MEETING, REAL PURPOSE

IS TO ASSAIL CHILEAN REGIME. IN CORRIDOR EVEN REPS OF SOCIALIST STATES GENIALLY ADMIT THIS AND GLEEFULLY FORESEE FEAST OF STRONG RHETORIC.

- 3. WE DO NOT OFFER ABOVE ARGUMENTS ON GROUNDS US RELATIONS OR LACK OF THEM WITH CHILEAN JUNTA. FACT IS THAT UNLESS CHILEANS BEAR BRUNT OF DEBATE, US WILL BE PRINCIPAL VICTIM OF EXERCISE. HOWEVER UNJUSTLY, US, ALONG WITH CHILEAN JUNTA, IS PRE-ORDAINED TARGET FOR RHETORIC SOVS AND THEIR FRIENDS PLAN TO DISH OUT. IF PROOF WERE NEEDED, SOV REP IN THIS MORNING'S CONSULTATIONS GAVE CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT MOSCOW INTENDS TO TAKE STEEL-HARD LINE. WE SHOULD HAVE NO ILLUSIONS THAT DETENTE UMBRELLA WILL PROTECT US AGAINST WHAT LOOKS LIKE FULL SCALE EFFORT TO EMBARRASS US.
- 4. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, WE RECOMMEND URGENT EFFORT TO STIMULATE CHILEAN REGIME TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE OF STATURE, PRESENCE AND ALERTNESS TO NEW YORK WITHOUT DELAY. HE SHOULD ALSO BE FIRST-CLASS ORATOR.

 BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 14 SEP 1973 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973| ISLINN03202

Document Number: 1973USUNN03202 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: P750011-1808 From: USUN NEW YORK Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730932/aaaaaxla.tel Line Count: 81

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION SS Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL **Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS** Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: garlanwa

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24 JUL 2001

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Jul-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <10-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SC MEETING RE CHILEAN EVENTS TAGS: PFOR, CI, CU, UN

To: SANTIAGO LONDON

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005